

In the United States Court of Federal Claims

OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS

No. 15-1529V

Filed: June 1, 2017

Not to be Published

JOHN HOMICK and
RACHEL HOMICK, parents and
natural guardians of Z.H., a minor,

Petitioners,

v.

SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES,

Respondent.

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Petitioners' Motion for a
Decision Dismissing the Petition;
Insufficient Proof of Causation; Vaccine
Act Entitlement; Denial Without Hearing

DECISION

On December 16, 2015, John and Rachel Homick filed a Petition for Vaccine Compensation in the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program ("the Program"),¹ alleging that Z.H. was injured by a vaccine listed in the Vaccine Injury Table. *See* § 14. The information in the record, however, does not show entitlement to an award under the Program.

On May 22, 2017, Petitioners moved for a decision dismissing their petition, acknowledging that they will be unable to prove they are entitled to compensation in the Program.

To receive compensation under the Program, Petitioners must prove either 1) that Z.H. suffered a "Table Injury" – i.e., an injury falling within the Vaccine Injury Table – corresponding to one of Z.H.'s vaccinations, or 2) that Z.H. suffered an injury that was actually caused by a vaccine. *See* §§ 300aa-13(a)(1)(A) and 300aa-11(c)(1). An examination of the record did not uncover any evidence that Z.H. suffered a "Table Injury." Further, the record does not contain a

¹ The Program comprises Part 2 of the National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986, Pub. L. No. 99-660, 100 Stat. 3755, codified as amended, 42 U.S.C. §§ 300aa-10 *et seq.* (hereinafter "Vaccine Act" or "the Act"). Hereafter, individual section references will be to 42 U.S.C. § 300aa of the Act.

medical expert's opinion or any other persuasive evidence indicating that Z.H.'s injury was vaccine-caused.

Under the Act, the petitioner may not be given a Program award based solely on the petitioner's claims alone. Rather, the petition must be supported by either medical records or by the opinion of a competent physician. § 300aa-13(a)(1). In this case, because there are insufficient medical records supporting Petitioners' claim, a medical opinion must be offered in support. Petitioners, however, have offered no such opinion.

Accordingly, it is clear from the record in this case that Petitioners have failed to demonstrate either that Z.H suffered a "Table Injury" or that Z.H.'s injury was "actually caused" by a vaccination. **Thus, this case is dismissed for insufficient proof. The Clerk shall enter judgment accordingly.**

IT IS SO ORDERED.

s/George L. Hastings, Jr.
George L. Hastings, Jr.
Special Master